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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1859.

JAMES HENTHORN TODD, D. D., President, in the Chair.

THE Secretary of the Council read the following Report from the Council :—

REPORT.

THE history of the Academy for the past year does not present much which calls for remark on the part of the Council.

In presenting their Report for the Session 1857-58, the Council stated to the Academy that during the previous year the printing of their "Transactions" had been almost entirely suspended, in consequence of deficiency in our funds.

The Resolution then adopted by the Academy, as also the completion of the first part of the Catalogue, having removed this difficulty, the printing of our "Transactions" has been resumed; and the following papers have been completed, and are now nearly ready for publication:—

Rev. Dr. Robinson on "The Lifting Power of the Electro-Magnet."

Rev. Dr. Lloyd on "The Determination of the Earth's Magnetic Force."

Dr. Kinahan "On the Genus *Oldhamia*."

Professors Jukes and Haughton on "The Lower Palæozoic Rocks of the South-East of Ireland."

Lieutenant Renny on "The Constants of the Barometric Formulæ."

These papers together make about twenty sheets.

The Academy will observe that the papers above enumerated belong exclusively to the department of Science. It is a matter for regret that no addition has, during the past year, been made to our "Transactions" in either of the departments of Polite Literature or Antiquities. The Council trust, however, that this is to be ascribed to accidental causes, and not to any permanent relaxation in the activity of our Members.

The twenty-third volume of our "Transactions" is now almost ready for publication. It will contain, besides the papers already enumerated, the following, which were printed before the Stated Meeting of 1858:—

In Science, Rev. George Salmon on "The Degree of a Surface reciprocal to a given one."

Lieutenant Renny on "The Barometric Measurement of Heights."

Professor Downing on "The Draining of Lake Haarlem."

Mr. Forster on the "Molecular Constitution of Crystals."

In Polite Literature:—From the Rev. Dr. Hincks, "On the Assyrian Personal Pronoun." Rev. James Wills, "On Dreams." Rev. Dr. Hincks, "On a Tablet in the British Museum."

In Antiquities:—From the President, "On an ancient Irish Missal."

Besides these papers, which have not yet been published, the twenty-third volume contains:—Professor Haughton's "Memoir on the Diurnal Tides on the Irish Coasts." Mr. Donovan, "On the Deflections of the

Galvanometer producible by Attrition and Contact of Metals;" and Mr. Mallet, "On the Construction of Artillery."

These papers have been already published.

The Academy have received during the past year many interesting communications, notices of which have appeared in our Proceedings.

In Mathematics we have had communications from Sir William R. Hamilton, Rev. Professor Graves, and Mr. Stoney.

In the Sciences of Observation and Experiment, from Dr. Kinahan, Professor Jukes, Professor Haughton, Professor Jellett, Mr. Donovan, Professor Greene, and Mr. Jennings.

In the department of Medical Science the Academy will remember that an interesting Report on the remarkable case of M. Groux was laid before us by a Committee which had been appointed to investigate the matter.

In Polite Literature we have had communications from Mr. Crofton and Mr. Drennan.

In Antiquities, from the President, Mr. Wilde, the Archdeacon of Ardfert, and Dr. Reeves.

It was with very great regret that the Council found themselves obliged to suspend all works connected with the Second Part of the Catalogue of our Museum; but the exhaustion of the fund which had been appropriated to the purpose of completing it left them, unfortunately, no alternative. Conscious, however, that so important a work should not remain unfinished, the Council have taken the only means in their power for completing it, by recommending the Academy to open a subscription for that purpose. This recommendation having been adopted by the Academy, it now rests with the individual members to decide whether or not this work shall be completed. It is highly desirable that the registration, at least, of the articles in our Museum should be finished, as this is necessary for their safe keeping.

The Council would remind the Academy that Mr. Wilde has devoted much of his valuable time to this object, and has collected a great deal of important information on the history of various articles in the Museum, which, but for his zeal and industry, would, in all probability, have been entirely lost. The best and almost the only way in which the Academy can manifest their gratitude to Mr. Wilde for his disinterested services will be by contributing to a fund which will enable him to continue and (if the fund collected be sufficient) to complete his undertaking.

Four Cunningham Medals were presented during the past year: two in Science, one in Polite Literature, and one in Antiquities.

In the department of Science the medals were awarded to the Rev. George Salmon, for his "Researches in Analytic Geometry;" and to Mr. Cooper, for his "Catalogue of Ecliptic Stars."

In Polite Literature, a medal was awarded to the Rev. Dr. Wall, for his "Researches in Oriental Literature," and in Antiquities, to the Rev. Dr. Reeves, for his edition of "Adamnan's Life of St. Columba."

The Council have much satisfaction in stating that the finances of

the Academy are steadily recovering from the drain produced on them by the payments made, some years since, for the liquidation of the expenditure of former years. All bills for printing, &c., have been discharged up to the present date. There are no outstanding liabilities; and the Council trust that, by the exercise of a judicious economy, satisfactory provision may be made for the immediate publication of all papers of literary or scientific interest.

The Academy has lost by death during the past year eight Members, viz. :—

JOHN PURSER, Esq., Sen.; elected 8th January, 1849.

HENRY JOSEPH MONCK MASON, LL.D.; elected 22nd June, 1812.

ROBERT HARRISON, M. D.; elected 25th January, 1850.

SIR PHILIP CRAMPTON, Bart.; elected 30th January, 1840.

REV. WILLIAM DIGBY SADLEIR, D. D.; elected 25th February, 1835.

THOMAS HAWKESWORTH LEDWICH, M. D.; elected 12th May, 1856.

HENRY CLARE, Esq.; elected 12th February, 1844.

VERY REV. JAMES GREGORY, Dean of Kildare; elected 11th Dec., 1837.

And three Honorary Members, viz. :—

ROBERT BROWNE, M. D.

GEORGE COMBE, Esq.

DAWSON TURNER, Esq.

Nine Members have been elected within the year, viz. :—

Rev. Charles B. Gibson.

His Grace the Duke of Manchester.

Edmond T. Palmer, Esq.

Alphonse Gages, Esq.

Thomas Brooke, Esq.

James G. Hildige, M. D.

Sir Henry J. Brownrigg.

Joseph R. Greene, Esq.

Venerable Frederick Goold, Arch-deacon of Raphoe.

No Honorary Members were elected.

Resolved—That the Report of the Council be adopted.

The following Supplement to the Report was laid on the table, and ordered by the Council to be printed.

The following list of Antiquities purchased from the 16th of March, 1858, to the 16th of March, 1859, was supplied by W. R. Wilde, Esq., in accordance with a Resolution of the Committee of Antiquities, adopted at the recommendation of the Council, to the effect that a descriptive list of donations and purchases, together with the articles themselves, and the cost thereof, should be laid before the Academy every quarter.

The articles are arranged according to the classification adopted in the Catalogue, and numbered in continuation of the different species in the printed Catalogue, or the manuscript registration. Mr. Wilde begs to add, that if this mode of registering the purchases and donations be persevered in, it will in future serve as a continuation of the Catalogue, and save the Academy much expense.

Stone Materials.—A long, round celt, of syenitic greenstone porphyry, composed of dark-green hornblende, and crystals of pink felspar, well polished, 7 inches long, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ broad; numbered in continuation of the printed Catalogue, 514.

A curved flint-flake of the knife form, 3 inches long by 1 inch broad; No. 1277. Both these specimens formed part of a collection of sixteen articles, principally bronze celts and palstaves, procured from Mr. J. Dillon, of the county of Limerick, for £2 17 6

Thirteen flat pieces of stone, circular, quadrilateral, and oblong, &c., most of them perforated, and all more or less ornamented, similar to those described at page 125 of the printed Catalogue, and numbered in continuation thereof, from 15 to 27, in Rail-case C. They were all discovered in the Ballinderry Crannoge, and were bought, along with several other articles of bone, bronze, and iron, said to have been discovered in the same locality, from P. Fagan, for £2 0 0

A crystal globe, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, encircled with two silver bands, to which a handle is attached; one of these cross-bands opens with a hinge. It is similar to those crystal balls already in the Museum, and described at page 127 of the printed Catalogue, and is now No. 3, in Rail-case C. It had been in the possession of the late Mr. Boylan, of Grafton-street, for several years, and cost, with the following article,— £4 0 0

An oval crystal ornament, set in silver, having the reverse engraved with an Irish scroll, and some vestiges of a figure. To be registered among the Ecclesiastical Antiquities.

Earthen Materials.—A very beautiful cinerary urn, now numbered 49, in continuation of those in the printed Catalogue. It is of the vase shape, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter of mouth, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ in the widest part. Although the material of which it is composed is not of so fine a character as that of many of the other urns in the Museum, the style of ornamentation is unique, and much more complicated than in any other specimen. It was found in a stone chamber at the moat of Sionan, near Horseleap, county of Westmeath, and was purchased from P. Fagan, for £0 15 0

Four beads, one of vitrified paste, and three of rough coloured glass, purchased along with the former, and now numbered 181 to 184 in Rail-case D.

Vegetable Material.—A sword-shaped piece of black oak, 2 feet long, with an aperture in the handle, No. 157, also from Ballinderry.

Two wooden pins, numbered 15 and 16, in Rail-case E, in continuation of page 214 of the printed Catalogue. The former, which is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, is very beautifully decorated with an indented pattern in the form of a Grecian scroll. Like most of the articles of this description, they were found in a crannoge—that of Ballinderry.

A two-horse yoke, in a very fine state of preservation, and formed out of a piece of ash; 2 feet 10 inches long, and resembling No. 142 in the printed Catalogue, after the articles in which it follows, as No. 154. It was found in the bog of Tubberdony, near Dervock, in the county of Antrim, and was purchased from J. O'Donnell, for £0 15 0

Two flat wooden platters, or butter dishes, of willow, circular, and differing in shape from any of those already in the collection; numbered 155 and 156; both have side-handles. The former is 15 inches, and the latter $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. They were found in the same locality as the horse-yoke, and obtained from the same person.
Cost, £0 10 0

Animal Material.—Fifteen bone pins, of different patterns, all more or less ornamented, and some with attached heads. They vary in length from 3 to 9 inches, and occupy the numbers from 304 to 318, on Tray C. No. 319 is a bone knife, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. Nos. 320 to 345 are twenty-six flat pieces of bone, ornamented, and resembling those portions of stone described under the head of "Amusement," at page 125 of the printed Catalogue, also those already referred to in this list, and the bone plates on Tray B. All these articles, together with the pins and knife, were found in the Ballinderry Crannoge, and form part of the purchase of miscellaneous articles obtained from that place.

A bone comb, beautifully ornamented, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and $1\frac{1}{8}$ deep, with a triple open decoration at top. It is the finest of its class in the collection, and possesses a peculiar interest from the side pieces being grooved, apparently for the purpose of receiving the clasp and rivet of a metal tooth intended to replace one of the lost bone ones. In continuity with similar specimens of household economy and the toilet, it will appear as No. 159 on Tray A. It was procured from the Ballinderry Crannoge, and cost £0 5 0

Metallic Materials.—Eight bronze celts and axes, the former exhibiting several ornamental patterns not shown by any other specimens in the collection. They are now numbered from 617 to 624, in continuation of the registry of these articles, and have been placed in Rail-case L. This collection is said to have been made in the county of Limerick, and was purchased, with the stone celt and several other articles, from Mr. Dillon, for £2 17s. 6d. No. 617 is a long flat celt, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, much corroded on one side, but the lacker or varnish well preserved on the other face, which is slightly ornamented. No. 618, a long celt, $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with a broad edge, imperfect at top, but covered with a punched ornamentation on both sides, the patterns of which are different. No. 619, one of the most perfect celts of the long, narrow character, in the collection, highly lackered all over, and ornamented on both surfaces near the cutting edge with double lines of dots. It is $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. No. 620, a lunette-edged celt, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and 3 inches broad, with rudimentary stop; the surface is much corroded on one side, the lacker is well preserved on the other, and covers a unique form of punched ornamentation, worked with great regularity. No. 621, ditto, $4\frac{3}{8}$ inches long, and $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches broad, with rudimentary wing and stop; very perfect in the cutting edge, and ornamented with spiral groovings on the side edges. No. 622, a winged celt, or palstave, lunette-faced, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. No. 623, a rude, small celt, socketed and looped, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. No. 624, a small, broad, socketed, and looped celt, only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length; it is one of the least of its class in the col-

lection, and apparently was never cleaned off, as the mould-marks remain.

A large winged palstave celt, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, with marks of hammering over the blade. It was found in the Silver River, in the townland of Coleraine Middle, in the King's County. It is numbered 609 in Rail-case L, and was purchased from P. Fagan, with the iron hatchet, No. 234, from the same place, for £0 15 0

A fine bronze spear-head, imperfect at top, numbered 87, on Tray Y; found at Ballymore, in the county of Westmeath. It, together with the cinerary urn, No. 49, the bronze mould, No. 97, and eleven other articles, was purchased from P. Fagan, for . . . £1 8 9

A spear, or javelin-head, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, No. 247, in continuation of the registry after Tray MM. It is the only one of its class or size in the collection in which the side-loops run into the blade. It was purchased from J. Fotherrell for £0 7 6

Two small javelin or arrow-heads; No. 248, which is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, and No. 249, which is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. Purchased from Mr. Dillon, with the collection of celts already described.

The blade of a short, broad dagger, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and $1\frac{7}{8}$ broad at the bottom, where it is perforated with two holes for passing the rivets which attached it to the metal handle, like those swords and daggers on Trays CC.

A bronze mould of hard brass, No. 97 in Rail-case P, 4 inches long, and 1 inch broad, having three heraldic devices upon it—viz., a griffin passant;—a stag courant;—a hare courant;—and an animal which Sir Bernard Burke says is probably “a wolf passant.” They are well cut, and each is surrounded with a square fillet. It was found near Durrow, in the King's County, and purchased along with the spear-head No. 87, and other articles. It is the only article of the kind which has yet been discovered in Ireland, at least that we have any record of.

A bronze celt-shaped chisel, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, including the tang, No. 98 in Rail-case P. It was obtained with the foregoing.

A bronze tube, No. 66 on Tray TT, found in Inchmore Island, Lough Ree, Upper Shannon; apparently a portion of a still-worm.

A bronze breast-pin, 4 inches long, with a wheel-shaped ornamented head—the only one of the kind in the collection. It was found at Ballinderry, and is now numbered 497 in Rail-case P.

Two slender bronze pins; one $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches, the other $2\frac{3}{4}$ in length; the latter has a square head, ornamented on each of its sides. They were obtained along with Mr. Dillon's collection, and are now numbered, respectively, 502 and 503.

No. 504, a bronze pin, with a curious nugget-like head, as if the metal ran in the casting,—found in a street-cutting in Bride-street, in the city of Dublin, and purchased from T. Geoghegan for . . . £0 2 6

A very beautiful bronze bridle-bit, No. 158 on Tray NNN; $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and quite perfect; found six feet below the surface of the bog of Lechnabeg, near Peter's Well, five miles from Gort, in the county of Galway, and purchased from Mr. R. M'Clintock for . . . £1 0 0

A portion of harness, consisting of a ring and three loops, probably a portion of the breeching; it is both cast and engraved, and is one of the best specimens of the kind in the Museum; portions of the leather remain attached to the loops, and show the way they were fastened with studs and rivets; it is said to have been found in the River Nore, and recently came from the collection of the late Dr. Kane, of Kilkenny. It was purchased from J. Fotherrell for £0 17 6

A triangular piece of perforated copper, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and resembling the stone and bone articles already alluded to at page 125 of the printed Catalogue. It was found at Ballinderry, and purchased from P. Fagan, as a portion of the lot along with the spear-head and urn. It is now among the miscellaneous metal articles in Rail-case P, No. 1.

Iron.—A light, thin, broad-bladed hatchet, or gallowglass axe, No. 234, on Tray I, discovered in the Silver River, King's County, and sold with the bronze palstave celt from that locality, for . . . £0 15 0

A thin, narrow arrow or javelin-head, bent into an awl shape, with a long, small socket, No. 41 upon the Tray containing the collection of articles found at Ballinderry. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, was probably used in the chase, and is the lightest implement of the kind in the collection.

A small, light horse-shoe, No. 14 on Tray P, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches across, with six holes equidistant, and each squaring about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch; found at Loughnavally, county of Westmeath, and purchased from P. Fagan, along with the two foregoing articles, as a part of the collection which included the bone pins and stone articles.

A small circular sheet-iron box, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, found in the cave of Kilpatrick, parish of Horseleap, county of Westmeath. No. 4 in miscellaneous iron articles.

A casting of two grotesque figures, purchased from P. Lamb for
£0 5 0

Silver.—A collection of fifteen pieces of wrought silver, chiefly portions of flat armillæ, and weighing 12 oz. 18 dwts. They were purchased from Mr. Donegan, who stated that he procured them from the county of Galway. Having been long in the earth, the metal has become exceedingly friable; several of the specimens are ornamented; they are now numbered 35 to 38, 50, 68, 69, 79, 80, 193 and 194, in the arranged collection of silver articles belonging to dress and personal decoration. Among these articles is an imperfect bracelet, No. 50, with the usual characteristic punched ornamentation on the outer surface; also a twisted neck torque, No. 193, received in four pieces, but which I have restored. It measures 5 inches in diameter, and is formed of three plain twisted wires, with their extremities soldered together so as to form solid tapering ends: see No. 193. No. 194 is a torque-like armlet, also restored, and measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; it is solid, quadrangular in section, and ornamented on its two outer surfaces with punched triangular indentations.

Gold.—A small gold disc, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, composed of two very thin plates, grooved with a fine thread-like ornament on the external surface, and encircled by an overlapping band. It is evidently an

ornament, and weighs 2 dwts. 19 grs. It was purchased from Mr. Donegan, who can give no account of the circumstances under which it was discovered, for £0 15 0

Five gold armillæ, weighing together, 3 ozs. 9 dwts. 14 grs., and purchased from Mr. Donegan, at the rate of £4 per ounce. They formed a part of four pairs of bracelets, viz., one plain, one twisted, and two flat; discovered in a field belonging to a man named Byrne, in the townland of St. John's, near Castledermot, county of Carlow. The land had been previously tilled, and the clay was soft. The articles were all rolled together, much crushed, and bound round with fragments of the flat bracelets precisely in the state in which I first exhibited them to the Council. In the field in which they were found runs a small stream, on which is a shallow called the Battle Ford, and near the place where the gold was discovered a large granite rock had recently been blasted, and it is conjectured that the gold may have been hidden underneath its edge. After a short time the finder sold the lot to a watchmaker in Carlow, at very much beneath its intrinsic metallic value. The watchmaker proceeded to Dublin, but was unable to procure a purchaser, so he left them with a friend, who disposed of them to Mr. Donegan, from whom I procured them, and, having restored the broken pieces of the flat bracelets, with the sanction of the Committee of Antiquities, I procured two pair, and one specimen of the unornamented set. I am much indebted to Dr. O'Meara, of Carlow, and the Rev. Mr. Gorman, R. C. C., of Castledermot, for the history of all the circumstances attending the discovery, but the further particulars of which are unnecessary. Owing to the circumstance of there being no proper place yet provided in the Museum for the arrangement of the gold articles, numbers cannot be attached to them; but as some of them are the only objects of the kind that have as yet been exhibited in Ireland, the following description may serve to identify them:—One plain, circular, and bearing marks of hammering. Two of the torque pattern, each composed of a square bar of gold, twisted, but left plain at the ends. Two thin, flat bands, plain on the inside, and grooved or corded with fine parallel longitudinal lines on the outer surface. This form of ornamentation, which is similar to that upon the small circular plate of gold described above, would appear to have been effected by some pectinated tool. These bracelets, although so like, are not matches; their fellows have been disposed of, one to a dealer in Dublin, and the other to an English collector. In one of these in our collection, the edge is turned over, and deeply grooved on the outer side. Cost of four of these, £11 16 10

Ecclesiastical.—A copper crucifix, 10 inches long by 6 wide; the arms of the cross enclosed within an oval. It is perforated all round the edge, as if for attachment to some flat surface, probably a shrine or feretory. The figure is antique, draped at the waist with a short tunic, a portion of the decoration upon which is still visible. The head is surrounded with a mural crown, like those on some of the oldest crucifixes in the collection, and beneath it is a head-dress falling to the shoulders. The orbits are filled with lead. This article is said to have

been for many years in the possession of an ecclesiastic in Drogheda, and was purchased from J. Fotherell for £5 0 0

Coins and Medals.—Fifteen Danish silver pieces, and two Anglo-Saxon coins of Ethelred, in a very good state of preservation. They were purchased from Mr. R. Murray, of Mullingar, for . . . £3 0 0

A small collection of Greek coins, purchased from M. Daly for 1s. 6d.

Total cost of articles purchased by the Committee of Antiquities during the year ending 16th March, 1859, £41 18 1

The Secretary of the Academy announced that, in pursuance of the Resolution agreed to at the last meeting of the Academy, Mr. Wilde's letter had been laid before the Council, and that the Council assented to its being entered on the Minutes of the Academy.

It was then Resolved—That Mr. Wilde's letter be entered on the Minutes of the Academy, with the exception of certain passages which he desired to omit as having a personal reference.

“1, MERRION-SQUARE, NORTH,
“28th February, 1859.

“DEAR SIR,—As there seems to be some misapprehension on the part of Members of the Academy respecting the state of the Museum, and the second part of the Catalogue, and as a recent resolution of Council directed ‘all works whatsoever connected with the second part of the Catalogue to be stopped,’—at the same time that the Council recommended a subscription to be opened for the purpose of completing that book, I beg to lay the following statement before the Academy.

“On the 9th November, 1857, the following resolution, recommended by the Council, was passed by the Academy:—‘That all moneys derived from the sale of the Catalogue, after the expense of advertising, &c., be devoted to the publication of the second part of that work.’

“Coincident with that recommendation the following Resolution was adopted by the Council:—‘That Messrs. Carson, Haughton, Gilbert, and Wilde, do form the Committee to whom the full control of the sale of the Catalogue shall be intrusted.’

“The Treasurer has long since been furnished with materials for making out an exact account of the receipts from the sale of Part I., and the expenditure incurred in the preparation of Part II. of the Catalogue, up to the 16th March, 1858. By that account, when it is brought before the Academy, may be seen how I have disposed of the moneys voted for the preparation of Part II.

“In the Report of Council, read at the last Annual Meeting, all particulars of the Museum and its Catalogue were fully laid before the Academy. That Report says—‘The MS. Catalogue is now in process of completion, irrespective of any cost to the Academy, out of the price of Part I., which it is expected will also pay for the completion of the illustrations, provided the Members who have not already subscribed will do so. Thus, in process of time, should the Academy be in funds,

and inclined to complete the history of the collection, it will only have to pay for the printing and paper.'

"At the end of the session in July last, I laid a Report on the subject of the Museum and Catalogue before the Council, and it was inserted on the Minutes of the 19th of that month—to the following extracts from which I would draw the special attention of the Members of the Academy.

"In reply to the circulars addressed to Members by the Treasurer and the Secretary of Council, orders were received for 345 copies, 44 of which remained unpaid for. The public had purchased either through booksellers, or direct from the Academy, 75 copies, making in all a sale of 420 copies up to 17th July, 1858, which produced, as I then understood, the sum of £82 6s. 2d., of which £8 remained due by Members. With that sum, I stated in my Report, that I had completed the following work:—'All the objects composed of animal material, amounting to 560 specimens, exclusive of unmanufactured animal remains, or zoological specimens; the bronze articles, numbering 2898; all the iron articles to the amount of 485; all the articles kept together as "Finds," and numbering 748; the silver collection, amounting to about 230 specimens, and 180 of the gold ornaments, amounting altogether to 5101 articles, have been arranged, numbered, and registered.

"The registration specifies or refers to documents either in print or writing, and contains all that is at present known about each article. Wherever it was possible, and that we could identify the articles according to the "numbers" and "letters" in the "Old Registry" of the Museum, we have specified such in a column set apart for that purpose, and the new number has been added (for the present in pencil) to the "Old Registry;" but as that book was not continued after the year 1853, and as more than four-fifths of the entries merely specify the size and weight of the article, it has afforded comparatively little information. All the old numbers of either our own or the "Dawson" or "Sirr" Catalogues, which still remain, are attached to the reverse side of each article. All the cards and labels originally attached to the articles in the Museum have been preserved, and on each has been written the number which the article now bears in the present arrangement; so that they can be referred to in the revision and correction of any Catalogue which may hereafter be published.

"Those only who have been engaged for months on a work similar to the foregoing, especially upon such an incongruous mass as the Museum presented prior to March, 1857, can form any idea of the time, labour, and research, required in the identification of these antiquities; a single specimen often taking above fifteen minutes' search to identify.

"The MS. registration which is now laid on the Council-table can only be regarded as the material or rough draft for the formation of a Catalogue similar to Part I. At the same time, it serves as a complete registration of the articles according to their new arrangement, and, as such, may be used until that work is completed. I shall require it while writing the MS. of the Catalogue. It now consists of 325 folio pages, and has been completed at a cost of £43 18s. 4d.

“ ‘The registration of the Gold Ornaments has not been completed nor can it be so until proper cases are provided in the safes at each end of the Museum, as originally intended by the Board of Works. Upon this subject the Committee of Economy have reported to the Council.

“ ‘As many as 240 illustrations have been drawn on wood, and paid for from the funds of the Catalogue : of these, only two are of gold articles, and five of silver,—so that both these materials may be said to be as yet undrawn. Of the 240 articles which have been drawn on wood, 100 have been cut, and paid for, and the remainder are now in the engraver’s hands. The cost of these latter will be about £35. As it is not possible to complete the MS. of the Catalogue without having the illustrations before me, I have induced the engravers to proceed with the work on the understanding of being paid one-half the cost when finished, and the other half at the end of March, 1859. The former part I hold myself bound to pay.

“ ‘The numbering has been completed by means of the old printed figures remaining since the former part, or cut out of Catalogues, &c., without any additional expense to the Academy. But I look on the present numbering as only temporary. Kelly, the porter of the Academy, is quite competent to number each article separately in paint, and might employ a portion of his time during the vacation in so doing, provided the Council would give him some remuneration in addition to his wages. If this is not soon done, great injury will accrue to the collection, as the numbers at present attached to the articles for the purpose of registration are not only unseemly, but cannot be expected to last longer than a few years. Not having any funds at my disposal for printing labels in continuation of those already adopted, that most necessary part of the work has not yet been completed; I therefore request the Council to sanction the expenditure from the funds of the Academy, of a sum not exceeding £3 for that purpose. This is immediately necessary—not merely for the benefit of visitors, but in compliance with the Treasury Minute, which requires all public Museums receiving Parliamentary grants to be supplied with such labels, as already communicated to the Secretary of the Academy.

“ ‘Some of the printed Catalogues have been sent on sale to the Academy’s London bookseller, and the work still goes off from the office; but as we have not the means of advertising it, and no person to push it with the trade, the sale must naturally be slow; yet I have reason to hope that it will eventually pay the entire expenses of the registration of the Museum, and the illustration and preparation for the press, of the second Part. Until, however, 200 more copies are disposed of, this cannot be effected. I, therefore, request the Council to take some means of increasing the sale among the Members. In the meantime, as there is a sum of £8 still due for the registration and transcription of the Catalogue, I trust the Council will direct the Treasurer to have the money paid at once.’

“ That debt of £8, due for work, and balanced by the sales of the un-

paid Catalogues, was paid off during the autumn. Besides the gross number stated in that Report, I beg to observe that 305 articles have since been registered, inclusive of some additions to the Museum by purchase and donations during the past year,—thus showing the total amount of registered articles, in succession from Part I., to be 5406, and the MS. registration increased from 325 to 393 pages.

“Knowing that the sale of the Catalogue continued, I applied, in December, to the Assistant Secretary to pay some small outstanding accounts for registration and wood-cutting, when I was informed that the Treasurer had directed all the money in hands to be paid for binding the first Part of the Catalogue, that sum having been omitted in the monthly audits from August, 1857, to December, 1858, owing, I am informed, to the negligence of the bookbinder, although he had furnished the Academy’s account for other work.

“Upon appealing to the Council against what I considered a misappropriation of the funds, ‘devoted by the Academy to the publication of the Second Part’ of the Catalogue, that body directed the Treasurer to charge the cost of binding to the general account of the Academy, which Resolution was forwarded to me on the 8th instant, and with it the accompanying:—

“‘The Committee of Economy in their Report, adopted by the Council, recommended—“That in consequence of the funds from the sale of the Catalogue being now almost entirely exhausted, it be recommended to the Council, that all bills for wood-cuts, &c., for the second Part of the Catalogue be called in, and that all work whatsoever connected with the Second Part of the Catalogue be stopped.”’

“To that communication I addressed an answer on the 19th instant, in which I alluded to the specific agreement made between me and the Academy, by its Resolution of November 9, 1857. I referred the Council to my Report of the 19th of July, 1858, and the account attached thereto, to show that the expenditure had not then exceeded the sales of Part I., but, on the contrary, had left a balance of 17*s.* 7*d.* I also stated that—

“‘Knowing that the sale of the Catalogue must be slow, and finding that there were many matters to be done in the Museum of greater urgency than the wood-cutting, I stopped both engravers, the one within the month, and the other as soon as he had completed the blocks upon which he was then engaged, and I have not had a single block engraved since the early part of last August. The total sum due to the engravers at that period was £14 8*s.* 6*d.*, one-half of which I liquidated according to my intention, as stated in the Council Minutes.’

“By an order of Council, dated 1st November, 1858, a sum of £3 was voted for descriptive labels, in accordance with the Government letter to that effect. These, with considerable labour, I prepared; and employed Mr. Eagar to arrange and attach to the different trays, &c., as I presume the Council did not intend that I myself should spend a week or more in the adjustment of such matters. Another portion of extra work imposed on me, and paid for out of the proceeds of the Ca-

talogue, was drawing up for the Committee of Antiquities a list of the articles purchased during the last year, in accordance with the recommendation of Council.

"The whole debt incurred for work done in the Museum from the date of my Report in July last to the present day is £6 5s., and for making a fair transcript of a portion of the Catalogue, the sum of £2, being, with the cost of engraving, £22 13s. in all, spent in seven months, to meet which 194 Catalogues have been disposed of, thus leaving a balance on the credit side of the account. So that, at the close of an arduous work, extending over more than eighteen months, and dispensing upwards of £100, I am happy to be able to show that I have not exceeded the trust reposed in me by the Academy, and that there is, therefore, no necessity for the Treasurer, however anxious he may be to show a clear account at the end of the year, to apply to the Academy for any money to make up the surplus expenditure under this head.

"You will be good enough to inform the Council that I have acted promptly on the order contained in its Resolution, and 'stopped all work connected with the Catalogue,' viz., the labelling of the silver ornaments, the registration and numbering of the Ecclesiastical Antiquities (partly done), and the transcription of the manuscript of the Catalogue of bronze articles for printing.

"When preparing the first Part of the Catalogue, to meet the exigency of the Meeting of the British Association, I was under the impression that the book would be—and I much regret that it was not—given to the Members by whose money it was compiled. This is, I believe, the first time the Academy has had any profitable return from its publications.

"Not having the charge of the accounts, it only remained for me to keep the expenditure within the limits of the *sales*, at an average return of 4s. per copy. The total number of books sold has been 614, which should have produced £122 16s. (and of which number 568 have been paid for), upon the strength of which I expended £104 12s. 1d., but as I have been informed by Mr. Clibborn that the net return from the copies paid for has been only £110 4s., I presume that the difference has been expended in postage. As the 46 copies now due for by Members, and which may be considered as good debts, and on which there is no postage, will produce £9 2s., a considerable balance will remain in favour of the Academy at the end of the account.

"Allow me to remind the Academy of this fact:—Since Dr. Petrie produced his great work on the 'Ecclesiastical Architecture and Round Towers of Ireland,' read to the Academy in 1833, and published as our twentieth volume, in March, 1845, we have printed 2127 pages of Transactions, of which 1343 were devoted to Science, 765 to Polite Literature, and only 19 (furnished by Dr. Todd and myself) to the subject of Antiquities. Had original papers upon Antiquities been supplied, no doubt they would have been published and illustrated, but as that has not been the case, I have only to observe that, during the last fourteen

years, that branch of this institution (which was chartered equally for the advancement of Science, Polite Literature, and Antiquities) has not had its share of the money spent upon printing. It will be in the recollection of the Academy that, according to the Treasurer's statement two years ago, the impoverished condition of our finances had chiefly arisen from the expenditure incurred in printing and illustrating our Transactions.

"The third Resolution informs me that the Council recommend the Academy to open a subscription for the purpose of completing the Catalogue of the Museum. It was with considerable surprise I heard of the intention of that Resolution an hour before it was passed. Should it be adopted by the Academy, with the money collected I would strongly and urgently recommend the Council to complete the arrangement, numbering, labelling, and manuscript registration of the Museum, including the proper arrangement and display of the gold ornaments in the iron safes intended for that purpose, and one of which has now been erected for upwards of seven years without having been made use of. A proper case or cases will also be required for the Ecclesiastical Antiquities. This subject of cases I entered fully upon in my letter to the President during the summer vacation, and which letter, I beg to observe, met with the approval of those with whom chiefly rested the recommendation to the Government of such works.

"If the Council desire it, and the Academy, either by subscription or a vote of money, pays for it, I am ready to complete the registration when the proper cases are supplied. And I can now assure the Council, as I did on several former occasions, that this is a matter of the utmost moment and urgency. If the means are placed at my disposal, and I am not again stopped in the midst of the work, I will very shortly have the arrangement of the Museum completed, and all the articles now remaining, except the coins and medals, registered, and I think at a cost of £10 or £12. The remaining part or parts of the Catalogue may be completed at a subsequent period by myself or others; but until the arrangement of the Museum has been finished, and all the engravings made, and the manuscript more advanced, it would be impossible to estimate, even by approximation, what number of pages will be required in such a work.

"In bowing to the authority of the Council, and thus for the present ending my labours, given gratuitously to the Academy for the benefit of Irish Antiquities, I beg to assure the Members that my chief endeavour has been to arrange and register our too long neglected Museum, and to place on record now, while there are persons living who can afford the information, all that was valuable or authentic connected therewith; and that I never asked either Council or Academy to print one page of the continuation of a work which, although devoted to a subject not valued by a large proportion of our Members, has, I believe, neither lessened the prestige of the Academy, decreased the interest in our Museum, nor lowered the cause of Irish Archæology and Ethnology.

By 614 sales up to 16th March, £122 16 0

Thus expended :—

To Prospectus, Circulars, and Postage, as per			
Treasurer's account, to 31st March, 1858, .	10	6	3
Drawing and Wood-cutting,	41	2	0
Registration of Museum,	50	3	4
Transcribing Catalogue,	4	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£105	11	7

"I am yours truly,

"W. R. WILDE.

"*To the Secretary of the Royal Irish Academy.*"

In accordance with a Resolution of the Council, the Secretary of the Academy read the following letter from Colonel Larcom :—

"PHOENIX PARK, 3rd March, 1859.

"MY DEAR GRAVES,—Lord Wrottesley's Address to the Royal Society has brought again to my mind a subject we were speaking of some time ago, viz. :—That we have no portraits of our three last Presidents, Hamilton, Lloyd, Robinson. Where, in the march of Science and of intellect in Ireland, can we move without coming into contact with one or other of these names? Let us redress this injustice to ourselves before they pass away; for, wanting their portraits on our walls, we have failed to claim them for our own.

"The portraits of Presidents which we now possess have been painted by subscription, in, however, equal honour, no doubt. But subscriptions, when we raise them as we often do, can be advantageously supplied in other ways, and, as a continuous mode of providing portraits of public men, a subscription is a clumsy machinery. It is a noble distinction to fill our Chair, and it is still more so to be installed in perpetuity before the Members of the Academy for all time.

"Why not, then, ask each President to present his own portrait on leaving the Chair? Let each of the three I have named be now applied to, and let it be understood henceforward that every President, at the close of his Presidency, be expected, without any especial request, to do so. Fix a size, a form of frame suitable to the place or room in which it may be thought best to place them, in either a President's Gallery, or, perhaps, over the bookcases in the Library. This must, of course, be done by resolution of the Academy, on the recommendation of Council.

"Would you throw out the idea for consideration, at the next Meeting of Council?

(Signed)

"Your obedient servant,

"THOMAS A. LARCOM.

"Lord Wrottesley's Address is at page 499, No. 33, Proceedings, Royal Society of London."

After some discussion, it was resolved that Colonel Larcom's letter be referred to the Council, for the purpose of determining how the object therein proposed may be best carried into effect.

The Ballots for the annual election of the President, Council, and Officers, having been scrutinized in the face of the Academy, the President reported that the following gentlemen had been duly elected:—

PRESIDENT.—James H. Todd, D.D.

COMMITTEE OF SCIENCE.—Rev. George Salmon, M.A.; Rev. Samuel Haughton, F.R.S.; William H. Harvey, M.D.; Rev. J. H. Jellett, M.A.; Sir William R. Hamilton, LL.D.; Robert W. Smith, M.D.; Rev. Joseph A. Galbraith, M.A.

COMMITTEE OF POLITE LITERATURE.—Rev. W. H. Drummond, D.D.; Rev. Charles Graves, D.D.; John Kells Ingram, LL.D.; John O'Donovan, LL.D.; Rev. Samuel Butcher, D.D.; Rev. Joseph Carson, D.D.; John F. Waller, LL.D.

COMMITTEE OF ANTIQUITIES.—George Petrie, LL.D.; Charles Haliday, Esq.; John T. Gilbert, Esq.; Rev. William Reeves, D.D.; Lord Talbot de Malahide; Eugene Curry, Esq.; W. Henry Hardinge, Esq.

TREASURER.—Rev. Joseph Carson, D.D.

SECRETARY OF THE ACADEMY.—Rev. Charles Graves, D.D.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL.—Rev. John H. Jellett, M.A.

SECRETARY OF FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.—Rev. Saml. Butcher, D.D.

LIBRARIAN.—Rev. William H. Drummond, D.D.

Clerk, Assistant Librarian, and Curator of the Museum.—Mr. Edward Clibborn.

The President nominated, under his hand and seal, the following Vice-Presidents:—Rev. George Salmon, M.A.; John K. Ingram, LL.D.; Rev. William Reeves, D.D.; Lord Talbot de Malahide.